Sl. No.	Name of Applicant	Activity
53.	M/s Goodlass Nerolac Paints Ltd.	Paints, enamels & varnishes, etc.
54.	M/s Skoda Auto Ltd.	Setting up a passenger car manufacturing/assembling project
55.	M/s Rakesh Kumar Thukral	Synthetic strippings
56.	M/s Balsim and Company Holdings Pty Ltd.	Manufacturing, processing & deals in all forms of leather and related products
57.	M/s Soft Sol India Pvt. Ltd.	Computer software development
58.	M/s Alcatel Modi Network Systems	Telecom products

Export and Import of Pulses

†534. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have permitted the export of pulses;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that pulses are imported to meet its shortage;

(c) if so, the reason for permiting export of pulses and the rate of Customs duty on import and export of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) The import and export of pulses is allowed freely except that export of pulses only inconsumer pack upto 5 kgs is allowed. The free regime of export and imports ensures export of value added pulses, during years of surplus production, in consumer pack upto 5 kgs and imports without restriction to meet

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

domestic requirement when the domestic production is comparitively less. This ensures continuity in export policy without affecting domestic demand which, in case of exigencies, can be met through imports. The import of pulses is allowed on payment of 5% basic customs duty, 0.5% surcharge and 4% special additional duty. The net effect of import duty is 9.72%. There is no export duty on pulses.

Trade Promotion Board

†535. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Trade promotion Board has been constituted by the Government in the Country;

(b) if so, when this Board was constituted last time and what is the total annual expenditure incurred by Government for the functioning of this Board;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this Board plays main role in deciding policy in respect of the export from the country; and

(d) if so, number of total meetings of this Board held during 1998-99 and upto September this year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Board of Trade set up to advise the Government on various export promotion measures was last reconstituted on Feb. 5, 1999. No emolument or TA/DA are admissible to the Members of the Board who function in honorary capacity. The expenditure incurred on the functioning of the Board is insignificant and therefore no separate allocation of fund is made for this purpose.

(c) and (d) The following terms of reference have been assigned to the Board:—

(i) To advise the Government on policy measures for preparation and implementation of both short and long term plans for increasing exports in the light of emerging national and international economic scenario.

Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.